THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) A double track already exists between Sainthia and Rampur Hat and between Burdwan and Khana. There is no proposal for doubling rail line between Khana and Sainthia at present.

(b) Does not arise.

मयूरभंज में चलते फिरते डाकघर

1239. श्री **सुनील कुमार पटनायक** : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या चालू वर्ष में उड़ीसा के मयूरभंज जिले के ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में नए डाकघर और चलते-फिरते डाकघर खोलने का कोई प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री **संतोष मोहन देव**) (क) जी नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

Purchase of boeing 747-300 for AIR India

1240. SHRI DINKARRAO GOVINDRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to purchase Boeing 747-300 for Air India has been finalised; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the decision taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) The proposal of Air-India for the acquisition of two Boeing 747-300 Combi aircraft is being processed.

Train between Ahmedabad and Cochin

1241. SHRI DINKARRAO GOVINDRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new railway train service to link Ahmedabad with Cochin has recently been started; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A new weekly train No. 937|938 Express has been introduced between Ahmedabad and Cochin from April, 1987.

Malfunctioning of Navodaya schools in states

1242. SHRI VISHWHA BANDHU GUPTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Navodaya Vidyalayas recently inaugurated in several States have been started without the necessary infrastructural facilities;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these schools are still following the same syllabi as in other schools; do not have adequate accommodation; are working without the Principals and have not held the annual examinations so far; and

(c) if so, by when these shortcomings are likely to be removed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) The scheme for setting up Navodaya Vidyalayas has been started in 1986. Initially Navodaya Vidyalayas have been started with the land and permanent| temporary building made available by the State Government|UTs concerned. While substantial rennovation and additions/alterations have been carried out by the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti to make the accommodation suitable for the school, naturally there would be some shortcomings.